

Spring 2-1-2005

RTV 370.01: KBGA Reporting

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Recommended Citation

Ekness, Raymond G., "RTV 370.01: KBGA Reporting" (2005). *Syllabi*. 10132.
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RTV 370
KBGA Reporting
Spring 2005
(Subject to Change)

Class meeting-Fridays 10:10-11am in 730 Eddy.
JOUR 280 is a pre-requisite for this class

Instructor

Ray Ekness
Associate Professor
UM Radio-Television Department
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Teaching Assistant

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KBGA College Radio
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Overview

This course is designed to help broadcast news and production students continue to grow and expand skills in researching, reporting, writing and producing radio news stories for KBGA College Radio. The course will entail students finding and researching stories about the university and other issues related to the campus community that relate to KBGA College Radio's audience demographic (ages 18-34). The course will expect students to execute the strong production values of a radio news package.

Course Requirements

Each student will be required to produce five "evergreen" news packages over the course of the semester as assigned by the instructor and TA. Stories will be completed and reviewed before they air. If you wish, you can produce an extra story that can be graded and your lowest grade will be dropped. If you are already a staff reporter at KBGA, you must do unique stories for this class.

Deadlines

Deadlines must be met. If you do not have your story completed by the assigned deadline, you will receive an "F." Missed deadline grades will not be dropped by producing an extra story.

Grading

Getting the story done by deadline is only part of the grading. Each story will be given an A, B, C, D or F. Just because a story airs does not mean it is an A. Story idea, researching, interviewing, writing and production will all factor into the instructors' grade on each story. There will be no examinations for this class. Your final grade will be determined by an average of your grades on stories.

Attendance Policy

Class attendance is mandatory. Any excused absences must be documented by the instructor in advance. Treat this class like a job. Make sure you come to class prepared with a variety of story ideas.

Class Structure

In class, the group will review and critique each of the stories that aired on KBGA newscasts. Amy will then run a story meeting and hand out assignments. You can not make changes to your story idea without the permission of Amy and/or Ray.

Story Structure

The radio packages should be between 1:30 and 2:00. All stories should be of high production quality with use of natural sound, interviews and voice-over. Each story should have a minimum of two interviews.

Editorial and Production Policy

If you have editorial or production questions during reporting, writing or editing of your story, please contact Ray or Amy. We're available to answer questions or get you moving in the right direction.

Natural Sound

Solid use of natural sound is a powerful radio news tool. Listen for it, record it and use it. It is almost always necessary to write to and use natural sound in your pieces.

Have fun!

This course was created to help you get more news practice. KBGA College Radio is a great radio station with a young, predominately liberal audience. These demographics allow student reports to be very creative with story ideas while maintaining journalistic integrity. The KBGA news department is willing to try new things. Your ideas are appreciated and needed.